



TOKEN HUNTER



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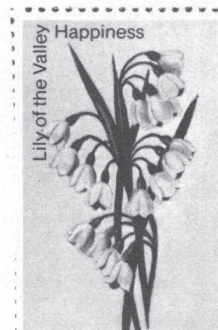
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P.O. Box 26246 South Salt Lake City, Utah 84126

Dedicated to the Collecting, Recording, and Preservation
of Tokens and Medals.



APRIL

A gush of birdsong,
A patter of dew,
A cloud, and a rainbow's warning.
Suddenly sunshine
And perfect blue...
An APRIL day in the morning.



Mondays are the crabgrass
in the lawn of life!!

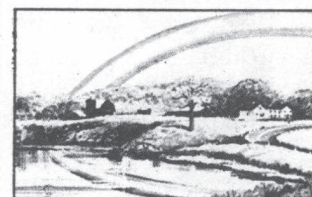
By failing to plan,
you are planning to fail.

You will never "find" time
for anything--if you want
time, you must make it.

Of all the things we wear,
the most important is our
expression.



A hobby is something you
get goofy about to keep
you from going crazy about
things in general!!



AUCTION LOTS
FOR APRIL

LOT#	NAME	TOWN	GOOD FOR
1.	Nat. Loader Berry Check	Pleasant Grove	(Brass)
2.	1962 World's Fair Medal	Seattle	(Brass)
3.	Medal (Wall Drug, So. Dakota)		(Brass)
4.	Rabies Tag	Sandy, Utah	(Aluminum)
5.	Cresco Saving Bank Medal		(Brass)
6.	1981 Elongated Dime,	New Orleans	
7.	1945 2 Pesos,	Mexico	(Gold)
8.			
9.			
10.			
11.			
12.			
13.			
14.			

INTERESTING NOTES FROM.....

In 1881, Abel Herringer, farming along the San Juan River in the Comb Ridge area south of Bluff, Utah, found gold in one of the side canyons of the river. Over a period of years he took out a large quantity of gold, working secretly in the isolated area and evading hostile Indians. When he became ill, a friend took him to a doctor in Cortez, Colorado. Before leaving, Herringer buried an accumulation of gold that some think totaled around \$100,000 in a secret place on his property. He found he had an incurable disease and told his friend to keep all that remained of the treasure after paying the doctor and burial expense. An extensive search was made over a period of months with the friend probing and digging into every likely spot but only one of the several sacks of gold was ever found.

(from May issue, Lost Treasure)

Wonder what the remainder would be worth today?

FROM OUR PRESIDENT...

Dear NUTS:

First, we would like to welcome two new member families to our club. Tom McFadden, his wife and two boys joined us in March. Tom collects arrowheads plus all types of coins. He says he is looking forward to the digs this summer. Next, Greg and Kay Manos joined our growing club. Greg specializes in Idaho tokens and dog tags. They are also looking forward to our treasure hunts.

Tokens from a couple of new towns have shown up. They are Virgin and Washington, Utah. There are still unknown towns to be discovered, not to mention unknown tokens from known towns--at least, 3 dozen that I have heard about.

Several metal detectors have reported finds this last month. There are too many to mention but I can say they have been found in the same old places as before, like Liberty Park, but with the brand-new and better machines, people just dig a little deeper. I know of one 1931-S penny that was just found. It is worth about \$35.00. One guy came into my shop and showed me 12 coins, all silver, consisting of 2 halves (1917, 1964), 2 quarters (1925, 1944) 8 dimes (1937-1964), plus 100+ coins, 2 tokens, 1 medal, 1 silver ring, 1 gold class ring. Then he said, "I'm sorry to show you so little for just 2 afternoon's work"! I told him he did very well and then asked him where he went--he didn't tell me--darn!!

Harold, Bruce, Doug and some others members went to dig down around Silver City in the Eureka area. Harold found a token (he thinks) in beat up condition. I hope he will show it to us.

I've noticed about a half-dozen articles in coin newspapers about tokens or medals this past month. I feel the whole trend of collecting is starting to turn to tokens and medals. People (collectors) are getting fed up with the high price of U.S. coins and want to collect something that is cheaper and is still historical. Who can say that tokens don't have a built-in history--but, of course, you all know that! One thing is sure, if the token bug bites you, you are really hooked!!

On April 14th, I was interviewed on KZJO talk radio by Tom Madson who was the DJ between 8 and 10 p.m. He said he also would like to come on one of our digs and then have another interview and talk about it. He plugged our club's name about 30 times on the air and many people said they would like to come to our meeting this Thursday. So, if you see anyone you don't know, introduce yourself and make them feel welcome.

(see pg. 4)

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE, continued:

There are still quite a few members who haven't paid their dues for 1984. Please, let's all help the club and pay up.

Our guest speaker this month is Les Carrigan. He grew up in Bingham and knows about the town and its people. He will have old pictures and great stories to tell. Save all your questions up for the meeting. He knows the men behind the tokens we now have from Bingham.

The token quiz will be given by Frank this month so put on your thinking caps.

We are going to have a contest for the best story to be submitted to the Token Hunter. Make your stories real and interesting and give them to our editor, Edith. Winners will receive a plaque at our Christmas Dinner. Also, at that time, certificates will be handed out for 100% attendance for the year, so let's have everyone make an effort to attend every month.

Let us know if you don't receive your Token Hunter and we will get it to you.

I would like now to say a few words about honesty to fellow-members and collectors. If you undermine someone or beat someone out in a dishonest way, people's feelings will always get hurt. Remember--you "reap what you sow." Anything that you do that hurts someone will come back on you many times over. So let's try to improve on that 1% of dealings that may be questionable and make everyone happy.

Good luck to all and keep building the club up.

Bob Campbell

EDITOR'S NOTE:

Please be patient with me as your new Editor. As many of you know I have not been well during the past months and I am slow getting started on the Token Hunter. I expect to be able to do much better on the future issues. I would appreciate it if any of you who have items of interest to the club would call me before May 12th so that I can put them in the Token Hunter. I will try to get the May issue out by the 17th so you will have it a few days in advance of our meeting. The items I have in mind could be concerning anything new that you have found, or if someone is ill, or, possibly, if you have read or heard of something you think might interest the club. My number is 973-8446 and I am rarely gone for very long so please call.

Edith Attebury

ORRIN PORTER ROCKWELL and the CHERRY CREEK SINKS

* * * * *

Orrin Porter Rockwell was one of Utah's most colorful residents. He was born in Belcher, Mass. on June 28, 1813. Two years later, his parents moved to Manchester, New York and in 1817, they became acquainted with the young "Mormon" prophet, Joseph Smith.

Joseph and Porter became fast friends and when Joseph organized the L.D.S. Church, in 1830, Porter was among the first converts. He was steadfastly loyal to his new faith and to its leader. When persecution of the new church began, Porter became Joseph Smith's bodyguard. From New York to Ohio to Missouri, Porter followed his church and its members as they were driven from one state to the next, mobbed, murdered, robbed and displaced from their homes. When the Saints arrived in Far West, Missouri, Porter Rockwell and others felt the time had come to fight back.

The Sons of Dan (or Danites, as they were called) were organized with the intent of defending the Mormon settlements. As the violence increased, however, tempers flared and the Danites took the offensive. Raid demanded counter-raid and blood flowed on both sides but even the Sons of Dan could not stem the tide against the church members and once again the Mormons had to leave their homes behind as they crossed the river to Illinois seeking sanctuary. Porter Rockwell's new home was the swampland that became the City of Nauvoo.

The peace that Rockwell hoped for did not appear. Lilburn Boggs, Governor of Missouri, had been shot and nearly killed. Boggs had been no friend to the Mormons and had even issued an extermination order against them. It didn't take long for the Danite, Porter Rockwell, to be accused of the attempted murder and he was soon captured and taken back to Missouri.

In jail in Independence, Missouri, Porter was kept under very harsh conditions. Attempts were made on his life and Porter tried to break out on two occasions. After nine months, the Grand Jury failed to hand down an indictment against him and he was finally released. When he got back to Nauvoo, he was penniless and his clothes were in tatters. He had walked the distance from Independence to Nauvoo and when he appeared at the home of his friend, Joseph Smith, he was almost unrecognizable. In the nine months of his captivity, he had not been allowed to shave or cut his hair. After the reunion of the two friends, and after Porter had related some of his adventures, the Prophet put his arm around his friend's shoulders and announced:

"I prophesy in the name of the Lord that you, Orrin Porter Rockwell, so long as ye shall remain loyal and true to thy faith, need fear no enemy. Cut not thy hair and no bullet or blade can harm thee."

This prophecy was taken to heart and for the remainder of his life, Rockwell never cut his hair or beard. Through all his exploits, he was never physically harmed by any man.

(see pg. 6)

ORRIN PORTER ROCKWELL (continued)

Circumstances soon separated Joseph Smith and Porter Rockwell. Violence finally erupted again and Joseph was murdered in 1844 by an angry mob in Carthage, Illinois. Brigham Young assumed leadership of the Church and the Mormons left their homes once more and headed west to the valley of the Great Salt Lake.

In Utah, the Rockwell legend grew. Although he was elected one of Utah's first Deputy Marshals, a scout for Colonel Patrick Connor, Indian-fighter, Stationmaster for the Overland Stage Line, a tavern-keeper, mine owner, rancher and bodyguard for Brigham Young, he could not escape his Danite past. Anonymous writers in the East and the anti-Mormon press in Utah, called him "Brigham's Destroying Angel". He was accused of over 100 murders but never convicted of any.

The stories told about Porter Rockwell are so numerous that books have been written about him. One story, in particular, is of interest to today's treasure hunters.

In about 1868, Rockwell had been hired as a special shotgun guard on the Overland Stage. Nearly \$40,000 in gold was being shipped from California to Salt Lake City. Rockwell traveled from his ranch at Government Creek to Faust Station. When the stage finally arrived, he was told by the driver that only a few miles back the stage had been robbed. The lone gunman had taken the Wells-Fargo box containing the gold. Rockwell wasted no time in pursuing the bandit. He soon found the empty strong box but the thief had taken great pains to leave no trail. For two days, Rockwell searched for signs left by the outlaw. Finally, on the third day, he picked up the trail. Following his quarry for nearly a week, he watched and waited until the outlaw was convinced that he hadn't been followed. Rockwell followed him again until he arrived near Cherry Creek, Juab County. The outlaw headed straight for a large tree and began to dig. When he had finished, Porter stepped out from his hiding place and put the outlaw under arrest. Arriving at his own ranch with his captive in tow, he knew he couldn't travel without at least one good night's sleep so he put his ranch foreman in charge of the prisoner and went to bed. When he awoke the next morning his foreman was still asleep and the prisoner was gone. Rockwell set out once again in pursuit but this time the bandit was waiting for him and when the smoke had cleared, the bandit was dead.

When Porter Rockwell arrived in Salt Lake City at the Wells Fargo office, he was told that no reward would be paid to him because he had only recovered \$30,000 of the gold. Feeling that he had been cheated of what he had rightfully earned, he stormed from the office, swearing that he would bring back the gold and shove it down their damned throats. If nothing else, he was a man of his word. He searched many times for the lost gold but never found it. He even went so far as to homestead the area around Cherry Creek but the gold was never found.

He died in 1878 and was eulogized by his Church, and condemned as a murderer by others but if ever you find yourself down on the sinks by Cherry Creek in Juab County, have a look around. They say that Porter Rockwell used to spend a lot of time there!!

--George Wilson--



*** * THE MARKETPLACE * ***

One or more of these box areas may be purchased for the Buy-Sell-Trade by Members or Non-Members. Cost is \$4.00 per box for 2 months. Send Ad and check by 10th of the month to Box 26246, SLC, Ut. 84126

GREG MANOS

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after 6 p.m.**

WANTED - Mormon medals and tokens especially Pioneer Jubilee medals of 1897 and tokens with the Mormon Temple on the reverse. I am putting together a catalog of all known "Mormon" medals and tokens and any information would be very helpful.

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